REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify the feature of the present invention whereby the observation window projects from a side of one surface of the first body, and whereby when the second body is in the closed position, the observation window is visible from the outside without obstruction by the second body, as supported by the disclosure in the specification at page 9, line 18 to page 10, line 18.

In addition, claims 1, 4-11 and 14-20 have been amended to better accord with amended claims 1 and 11 and/or to make some minor grammatical improvements and correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put the claims in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. In particular, it is noted that the informality in claims 1 and 11 pointed out by the Examiner in item 2 of the Office Action has been corrected.

Still further, new independent claim 21 has been added corresponding to claim 1 without the recitations of the operating section and display section.

And finally, new independent claim 22 has been added to recite the features of the present invention whereby the image

display section comprises an observation projection projected from a surface of the first body and covering the magnifying optical part, and an observation window which is provided on a projected surface of the observation projection to project from the surface of the first body and lead the image magnified by the magnifying optical part to the outside.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to claims 1, 4-11 and 14-20 and the addition of new claims 21 and 22 be approved and entered.

CLAIM FEE

The application was originally filed with 20 claims of which 2 were independent. The application now contains 22 claims, of which 4 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount of $122 for the addition of 1 extra independent claim and 2 extra claims in total is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be determined to be required to Account No. 06-1378.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of various combinations of USP 6,243,059 ("Jachimowicz et al"), EP 0817393 ("Wright et al"), USP 6,230,028 ("Shirakawa"), USP 6,157,353 ("Song et al") and USP 6,009,338 ("Iwata et al").

These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to amended claims 1-20 and new claims 21 and 22 as set forth hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in clarified amended independent claims 1 and 11 and new independent claim 21, a mobile information terminal apparatus is provided which comprises, in particular, an image display section comprising: (i) an image display device which displays an image, (ii) a magnifying optical part which magnifies the image displayed by the image display device, and (iii) an observation window which projects from a side of one surface of the first body and leads the image magnified by the magnifying optical part to the outside, wherein the second body pivots in a range between: (a) a closed position in which the second body partially covers said one surface of the first body so that the observation window is visible from the outside without obstruction by the second body, and (b) an opened position in which the second body is at an angle to the first body.

Similarly, according to the present invention as recited in new independent claim 22, a mobile information terminal apparatus is provided which comprises, in particular, an image display section comprising: (i) an image display device which displays an image, (ii) a magnifying optical part which magnifies the image displayed by the image display device, (iii) an observation

projection projected from a surface of the first body and covering the magnifying optical part, and (iv) an observation window which is provided on a projected surface of the observation projection to project from the surface of the first body and lead the image magnified by the magnifying optical part to the outside.

Conventionally, an image display section having a magnifying optical system is thick. When such an image display section is incorporated into a mobile terminal, the apparatus conventionally has a thickness equal to or greater than the thickness of the image display section. Therefore, a mobile terminal incorporating this type of conventional image display section becomes thicker, particularly when compared with a mobile terminal using a normal LCD as the image display section. This problem is exacerbated if the eye point of the image display section is enlarged.

According to the present invention as recited in independent claims 1, 11, 21 and 22, however, the observation window projects from a side of one surface of the first body and leads the image magnified by the magnifying optical part to the outside, and the second body only partially covers the one surface of the first body in the closed position so that the observation window is viewed from the outside without obstruction by the second body. With this structure, the image display section projects from the surface of the first body, and is not covered by the second

body. Therefore, the thickness of the entire first body does not depend on the thickness of the image display section, and a thinner mobile terminal can be produced. In addition, since the observation window projects from the first surface, the distance between the observation window and the eye does not expand when the second body is closed. Therefore, a small observation window and an optical system can be used. And thus, the entire system may be downsized.

By contrast, Jachimowicz et al discloses a miniature virtual image display 13 which is substantially flush with the surface of a second hollow body 12. In addition, the optical system of Jachimowicz et al extends across the entire thickness of the second hollow body 12. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Jachimowicz et al suffers from the problem solved by the claimed present invention whereby the thickness of the second hollow body 12 is determined by the thickness of the optical system of miniature virtual image display 13. In addition, it is respectfully pointed out that virtual image display 13 of Jachimowicz et al is entirely obscured when first hollow body 11 and second hollow body 12 are closed. Still further, it is respectfully pointed out that second display section 16 of Jachimowicz et al is also flush with the hollow body 11 and does not comprise a projecting display window.

As recognized by the Examiner, Shirakawa does disclose a transparent window 12 which enables an LCD display 18 to be seen even when a telephone 10 is closed. However, as shown in Figs. 2B and 3B of Shirakawa, the LCD display 18 (and 46) is flush with the surface of the phone.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that both Jachimowicz et al and Shirakawa fail to disclose, teach or suggest the feature of the claimed present invention whereby the observation window projects from a side of one surface of the first body.

Similarly, it is respectfully submitted that the miniature virtual image display 16 of Wright et al also does not correspond to the image display section of to the claimed present invention. That is, it is respectfully submitted that the protective lens 28 of Wright et al is part of the virtual image display 16 which must be "popped up" into a ready-to-use position from its position underneath the surface of the housing 14. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Wright et al also does not disclose, teach or suggest the feature of the claimed present invention whereby the observation window projects from a side of one surface of the first body.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in each of amended independent claims 1 and 11 and new independent claims 21 and 22, as well as each of claims 2-10 and 12-20 respectively depending therefrom,

clearly patentably distinguishes over Jachimowicz et al, Shirakawa, and Wright et al, taken singly or in combination with any of the other cited references, under 35 USC 103.

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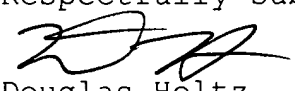
Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas Holtz
Reg. No. 33,902

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor
New York, New York 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101

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